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VIRGINIA IN 1680.

(Abstracts by W. N. SAINSBURY, and copies in the McDonald and DeJarnette Papers, Virginia State Library.)
(Continued)

May 2, 1680 About 5 leagues from the Capes

THOS. LORD CULPEPER, GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA TO [W. BLATHWAYT?] After a most tedious passage of eleven weeks and two days, full of death, scurvy and calentures they have arrived within soundings of Virginia. Complains of the unwarrantable supine remisness of Capt. Young in the *Hired James* and the inconveniencies if he be not come; thought he had sailed before the *Oxford Frigate*. Perceives he has but few friends at the Council board, by the late extraordinary way of proceeding which he will never acquiesce in. Left the greatest part of his servants in the *James*. Has reason to apprehend, and fears too not for the true interest of the Country, that the Building and Cantonizing Act exploded last year on the first hearing—The Bearer Capt. Jeffryes of the *Golden Fortune* assures him all is well in the Country both as to Indians and every thing else. Does not hear any one is dead there—Begs the *James*, but with another Commander, may be dispatched, if not gone already—Is told no Assembly hath sat which he looks upon as a good omen.

(Colonial Papers. 2 pp.) A copy of this letter is entered in Col. Entry Bk. No. 80. pp. 377-379.)

[About May 1680?]

PETITION OF ROBERT JONES(1) OF CHARLES CITY COUNTY
IN VIRGINIA TO THE KING—Sets forth his loyalty during the

(1) This is an instance, and no doubt there were many other examples, where a poor man who had been a Royalist, came to Virginia on account of the troubles of the Civil War. "Cavaliers" were of all grades of Society.

time of the unhappy troubles in England, & the many wounds he their received; that he was taken prisoner by the said Rebels & by them banished & sold into Virginia: that he was seduced into the late rebellion in Virginia but returned to his obedience to the Govern^t & served under Colonel Epes, but was afterwards seized by Gov. Berkeley's warrant, tried & brought in guilty of treason & sentenced to Death. Prays for pardon & forgiveness for his Rebellion free of charge being very poor and that his poor estate may not be taken from him.

(Colonial Papers. 1. p.)

[About May 1680?]

COLONEL FRANCIS MORYSON TO [WILLIAM BLATHWAYT?]
In favour of the petition of a poor man the only person saved of all those condemned in Virginia [Robert Jones of Charles City County, see his petition] by his own & Lady Berkeley's means. Has been expecting some general Act of Grace, hoping to get his name inserted to save his fees; but now Lord Culpeper is going to Virginia [he sailed in May 1680. W. N. S.]; conceives he will carry an Act of Oblivion with him, which will be as proper at this time for that Meridian as it was formerly for England and if it should be omitted he fears there will always be trouble there. It will be an act of charity to save the life of the poor man.

(Colonial Papers. 1. p.)

May 19, 1680

MEM. CONCERNING THE REVENUE—The Surveyor and Auditor of the Revenue or his Deputy are obliged to examine and audit all accounts of rents, revenues, prizes, fines, escheats, forfeitures, duties & other profits whatsoever in the Governm^t and to cause the same to be recovered and paid to the proper Officers, And an account of all monies to be transmitted into England—as the Letters Patent of 19 May 1680 direct.

(Colonial Papers. see 20 Nov. 1769.)

June 8, 1680

ANSWER OF THE ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA TO GOVERNOR LORD CULPEPER'S SPEECH demonstrating the state of Affairs in relation to the Indians and other things (concerning the late Rebellion &c.) contained in his Excellency's Speech at the beginning of this General Assembly.

Indorsed "Rec^d from the Earl of Sunderland 17 Sept. '80.
(Colonial Papers. 2 pp.)

James City June 8, 1680

CERTIFICATE SIGNED BY NICHOL: SPENCER SEC'Y BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL AND BY THO: BALLARD, SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY certifying to his Majesty that the sum of £300 is legally due to Lady Berkeley as Executor to her deceased husband Sir William, as well by virtue of his royal instructions as by Act of Assembly for his Salary having duly exercised the office of Governor from 10 Feb'y to 6 May 1677.

(Colonial Papers. 1 p.)

Virginia June 8, 1680

ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BEGUN AT JAMES CITY THE 8 JUNE 1680. That Colonel Cuthbert Potter (2) be paid by M^r Auditor out of the Impost of 2^s per hogshead the sum of £103. 3^s sterling with interest after the rate of six per cent per ann. from March 1673 for the freight of forty four great guns with powder and shot for this Colony—1 p. Indorsed. Rec^d 10 Aug. 1688.

(Colonial Papers. see 20 June 1688.)

June 30, 1680

THE KING TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA—That he give all

(2) Col. Cuthbert Potter was a justice of Lancaster 1656, and high sheriff of Middlesex 1682. He was a merchant and planter and died in 1691. His will which bears an amorial seal and was proved in Middlesex June 20, 1691, bequeaths his estate to Ralph Wormeley and Christopher Rohman, and frees his servant Richard Baldwin, to whom he gives £5, his silver tobacco box and wearing apparel. He describes himself as "late of the Colony of Virginia and at present arrived and being in the Island of Barbados, Gent." He had gone to Barbados in his own sloop, the *Hopewell*.

such assistance as shall tend to the more easy execution of the Office of Surveyor and Auditor of the Revenue and take care that justice be duly administered in all cases concerning the same—To direct the payment of Salary appointed by Letters Patents. To give in charge to all persons concerned in the management of the revenue to observe such directions as they shall receive from the said Auditor or his Deputy—And that they transmit unto him the particular account of the whole revenue of what nature soever it be.

(Colonial Papers, see 20 Nov. 1679.)

June 30, 1680

THE KING TO THE AUDITOR OF VIRGINIA—That he transmit to the Surveyor and Auditor General all accounts of money and to follow such other directions as shall be given him by the Lords of the Treasury or by the Surveyor and Auditor General.

(Colonial Papers, see 20 Nov. 1679.)

July 5, 1680

LORDS OF THE TREASURY TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA—Requiring him to take care that all accounts be transmitted for the time past and for the future every six months or oftener and Duplicates by the next Conveyances with copies of all Laws concerning the Revenue.

(Colonial Papers, see 20 Nov. 1679.)

July 5, 1680

THE LORDS OF THE TREASURY TO THE AUDITOR OF VIRGINIA—That he send the Surveyor General every six months or oftener a distinct account of all the Revenue and of all arrears with copies of all Papers concerning this Office with a Ledger Book of all persons answerable to the King for any rents or payments.

(Colonial Papers, see 20 Nov. 1679.)

Green Spring Va. July 8, 1680

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOR LORD CULPEPER repealing six Acts of Assembly viz:—of free pardon—of attainder—inflicting pain and penalties—for relief of persons who suffered loss by the

late Rebels—concerning servants who were out in Rebellion—& for delivery of stray horses; his Majesty finding them unfit to be longer continued having commanded the repeal of all of them. On the indorsement are some mem. by Lord Culpeper as to the supposed discovery of diamond and copper mines at Rappahannock and silver mines near Boston.

(Colonial Papers, 1 p.)

LETTER FROM COL. SPENCER TO M^r SEC. COVENTRY.

Received 17th Sep^r 1680.

(Full Copy)

Right Hon^{ble}

It is near six months since I gave Your Honor the trouble of a Letter, I then informed y^r honor an Assembly was suddenly to sit summoned by His Excel^{cie} the Lord Culpeper the Results of whose consultations as it is my duty I herewith send Your Honor being several Acts and Orders together with an Address to His Most Sacred Ma^{ty} imploring his grant for a Cessation from planting Tobacco in the Year 1681 a request which seems to bear such a dimunition in His Ma^{ties} Customs in that Year, that it may be feared it carrys with it its own denial, tho' for its immoderateness We are so unhappy to have to plead our most important necessities. Tobacco our sole Manufacture, and by which hitherto this Country only subsisted, but now by its excessive quantities made, is so under foot that it will be impossible for the Inhabitants longer to support themselves thereby, unless his Ma^{ty} will be graciously pleased to injoin a Cessation and thereby lessen the quantity and consequently advance, the price, by which we may not only hope for that good, but by that Years employment in other affairs our people may be futurely encouraged to direct part of their labors in the carrying on some other Manufactures and not solely depend upon that uncertain Commodity Tobacco which at present is so low that a Whole Year's crop will not advance to any ordinary Price whereby meanly to clothe themselves, and it is to be feared another year will bring Us to a more deplorable condition, there being now upon the ground the greatest crops that have been known which

when furnished together with what now remains in the Country will be as much if not more than the Ships will carry off in two succeeding Years from which it doth consequently follow if a Cessation be not, the next years labor will be totally spent in vain. We are now grown sensible that our present necessities and too much to be doubted future miseries are much heightened by our wild and Rambling way of living therefore are desirous of cohabitation, in Order whereunto in the late Assembly an Act was made appointing a Town in every County where all goods imported are to be landed and all goods exported to be ship't off. And if this takes effect as its hoped it may Virginia will then go forward which of late years hath made a retrograde motion, especially if His Ma'ty would be graciously pleased to grant immunities thereunto. The which we might have hoped would be granted if our request were modest for he that begs more than is fit to be granted must expect to be denied the whole.

Our Indians are, and this Summer have been, of peaceable and quiet demeanour to which I am inclinable to believe our Garrisons at the heads of the River conduced much, being a continual check upon them; the constant keeping of three score men and horse in each Garrison was found too heavy a charge for this Country to bear especially in time of peace the Garrisons are therefore reduced to twenty Men and horse to be kept in constant pay in each garrison to be as a standing guard to the frontiers which upon any pressing occasion may be speedily reinforced by the adjacent counties, though I hope may remain unmolested having made as firm a peace with the Northern Indians as with Indians can be concluded.

Your Honor will receive the State of the Country from the Grand Assembly and therefore I shall not give you the trouble of more particularities than to tell you, in all respects that His Ex'cie hath with so great prudence settled all the affairs of the Country that our late differences, Interests, are perfectly united to the General Satisfaction of all His Ma'ties subjects in this Colony. His Ma'ties soldiers paid off their Quarters discharged and all concerns made easy, our only care now being how to advance our low and mean Commodity Tobacco.

His Excellency with the advice of the Council the seventh of this month adjourned the Assembly to the fifteenth of February their to meet if any commands of His Ma'ty shall require.

I am so straightened in point of time, this Ship giving me but two days liberty after the adjournment of the Assembly for all dispatches, I must humbly beg Your Honors pardon for omissions which by the next ship shall be perfected and all matters fully transmitted to Your Honor from Right Hon'ble.

Your most humble and devoted servant.

Nich^s Spencer.

Virginia

James City.

July 9th 1680.

Postscript.

The Master of the Ship by whom this Letter comes is so pressing to be gone that I cannot possibly have the Order of the late Assembly transcribed but by the next Ship will send them to Your Ma'ty with a Copy of the accompts and another Copy of the Acts.

Nicho: Spencer.

A true Copy teste

W. Davis.

Greenspring, Va. Aug. 2, 1680

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOR LORD CULPEPER, commanding all Sheriffs to collect his Maj. Quit rents in all and every County and Counties of this Colony.

(Colonial Papers. 2 pp.)

Virginia, Aug. 3, 1680

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE COLLECTION OF THE 2^s PER HOGS-HEAD Fort duties and head money to be strictly followed and duly observed pursuant to an Order of Council to the same effect. Instructions for M^r Auditor Bacon to be by him duly observed.

(Colonial Papers. 2 pp.)

Aug. 4, 1680

THE KING TO THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA—To give with the assistance of the Council an account of the state of all Quit rents; how received and paid before the Grants under the Great seal and how since—To transmit a distinct account of the number of acres patented, to what persons, under what acknowledgments & how collected. To send a Dulpicate of the surveys of all such lands from the Surveyor's Office and to make up such as are wanting—And generally to furnish all necessary information in this behalf.

(Colonial Papers see 20 Nov. 1679.)

In the margin is written Postponed.

Aug 12, 1680

LORD CULPEPERS QUERIES RELATING TO VIRGINIA—To concur with Lord Baltimore about planting tobacco—Col. Nathaniel Bacon to be Deputy Governor—how to proceed in the punishment of the late insurrection in case Sir Henry Chicheley hath issued our proclamations of pardon in the King's name—about plant cutters being sued—about M^r Sandys hogsheads and to consider that the King hath no one man in pay either by sea or land.

(Colonial Papers. 1 p.)

LETTER FROM M^r SPENCER TO M^r SEC'Y.

Received 9th Dec. 1680

(Full Copy)

May it please Your Hono^r

This is a Copy of my last dispatch which went accompanied with the Acts and Orders of the late Assembly which I now again transmit to Your Honor lest the former should miscarry.

As to any new Occurrents I have only this to offer that His Excel'cie the Lord Culpeper is lately sailed from hence towards New England and from thence intends for England whose happy arrival thither will bring His Ma'ty a most ample and satisfactory Information of the State of this Country. I shall not presume to say more in that particular least I should seem to add or Drop to the Ocean or in some sort detract from a

Relation proceeding from His Lo'ps most exact and accurate
spection.

His Ma'ties Bills sent hither by his Lo'p are passed into Acts
in the late Assembly with some Provisers added to one of them,
to which it humbly prays the Royal Frit.

Our Indians are yet peaceable and I hope may so continue
they knowing the Guards at the heads of the Rivers in the ob-
servation of their motions and ready to repress their insolencies
when soever they are offered.

We have now no fears or disquiets, God be praised for it im-
pending over Us, unless we may suspect the mutinous humours
of one of His Ma'tys foot Companys of which S^r H'y Chicheley
is Captain should disturb our peace. Whence those turbulēt
humors do proceed I cannot certainly resolve, perhaps they are
grown resty, for want of imployment, or else the known jarrs
and discontents between the Lieutenant and the Ensigne may
be the cause. I suspect the last and doubt if that Company or
Lieutenant be not changed the peace of this country may be
endangered for the present prevention thereof, his Ex^o hath re-
moved and disperst 32 of the most mutinous among the Garri-
sons, at the heads of the rivers by which prudent Order they will
probably less be capable to do mischief.

The despicable and low price of Tobacco inclines the In-
habitants of this Country to think of Cohabitation as a principal
mean to abate the quantity of the commodity and amend the
quality and the late Assembly hath made an Act to that pur-
pose but I much doubt it may miss its wished Effect if not
totally miscarry by the multiplicity of places appointed for
Towns viz^t one in each County. But if all things were by His
Ma'ties Command to ride at one place in every great River and
in every of those places one town only to be erected the design
would have the better prospect.

Right Hon'ble
Your most humble
and devoted Servant.

Nicho: Spencer.

August 20th
1680.

A true Copy teste

W. Davis.

Whitehall, Oct. 8, 1680

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF TRADE AND PLANTATIONS.

Letter read from Lord Culpeper to Sec. Coventry dated from Virginia 8 July last giving an account that he had passed the Laws he had carried over in terminis except two provisoes: to be further considered.

(Col. Entry Bk. No. 106. p. 206.)

Whitehall, Oct. 11, 1680

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF TRADE AND PLANTATIONS.

In reference to Lord Culpeper's Letter from Virginia of the 8th July (see Minutes of 8. Oct.)—The first proviso repealing former Acts for raising a public revenue approved, but the last proviso which frees the Virginia Owners of ships from the duties of 2^s per hogshead and the Castle duties very much disliked. Resolved that Draft Order be offered in Council for confirming this Act as it was transmitted under the Great Seal together with the proviso for repealing other laws and disallowing the exemption of Virginia Owners and that a letter be written by the Committee to Lord Culpeper directing him to publish the Order and to take care that it be duly obeyed.

(Col. Entry Bk. No. 106. p. 210.)

(To be Continued)